



*Flathead Conservation District*  
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### **CALL TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE**

Chairman Ronald Buentemeier called the February 13, 2017, 310-Stream Permit meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the conference room.

#### **Board members present:**

Ronald Buentemeier, Chairman; Pete Woll, Vice Chairman; Secretary/Treasurer; Dean Sirucek, Supervisor; John Ellis, Supervisor; Lori Curtis, Supervisor; Mark Siderius, Supervisor; Verdell Jackson, Supervisor; being a quorum of the Board.

Also in attendance were: Valerie Kurth, Cynthia Ingelfinger and Ginger Kauffman, FCD staff; Leo Rosenthal and Kenny Breidinger, Fish Wildlife & Parks (FWP); Samantha Tappenbeck, Soil & Water Conservation Districts of Montana (SWCDM); Tyler Heine; Paul Travis, Flathead Land Trust (FLT).

### **MINUTES**

Dean Sirucek made a motion "to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2017, Flathead Conservation District Business meeting as presented." Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Pete Woll made a motion "to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2017, Flathead Conservation District Planning meeting as presented." Lori Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Email: Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) *New From The Front* legislative updates. <http://policy.macdnet.org>
  2. Email: Whitefish Planning Board Meeting, February 16, 2017, 6:00 P.M., Whitefish City Council Chambers, 1005 Baker Avenue, Whitefish.  
<http://www.cityofwhitefish.org/boards-and-committees/whitefish-city-county-planning-board.php>
  3. Email: Flathead Audubon newsletter *Pileated Post*  
<https://www.flatheadaudubon.org>
  4. Email: 2017 Western Montana Grazing & Ag Conference (WMGAC), February 9-10, Double Tree Inn, Missoula. Contact Lake County Conservation District 406-676-2841, Ext. 102.
  5. Email: Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) Montana
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- Aquatic Invasive Species grant applications due March 1, 2017.  
<http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cardd/resource-development/aquatic-invasive-species> or contact DNRC, [SHester@mt.gov](mailto:SHester@mt.gov)
6. Email: *Treading New Ground, a Helena farm family uncovers the importance of soil health*. Through September 2017, DNRC will be releasing stories on conservation to local newspapers and radio stations.
  7. Email: McCone CD newsletter *Conservation News*, [mcconecountycd.com](http://mcconecountycd.com)
  8. Email: February 1, 2017 issue of *The Montana Conservationist*, [www.swdcmi.org](http://www.swdcmi.org)
  9. Email: AIS grant applications are due March 1, 2017. Applications for prevention and management of high-priority species such as Eurasian watermilfoil, curly-leaf pondweed and flowering rush, will be considered during this grant cycle. Contact: Stephanie Hester, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation RDG Program Manager, MISAC Coordinator, 406.444.0547, [shester@mt.gov](mailto:shester@mt.gov)
  10. Email: DNRC is seeking conservation districts interested in working on a local program to protect waterways from aquatic invasive species infestation. Most specifically, the Mussel Team is looking for help in conservation districts in Beaverhead, Broadwater, Lewis and Clark, Lincoln, McCone, Roosevelt, Sanders, Toole, and Wibaux counties, however, *all* conservation districts can participate. Contact Bob Flesher, 406-444-4340, [bflesher@mt.gov](mailto:bflesher@mt.gov)
  11. Email: Phillips Conservation District newsletter.  
[www.phillipsconservationdistrict.com](http://www.phillipsconservationdistrict.com)
  12. Email: MACD's February 3, 2017 issue of *News from the Front* regarding legislative Updates. [www.macdnet.org](http://www.macdnet.org). To watch or listen to any hearing from a computer, either live hearings or hearings held days ago, go to <http://leg.mt.gov/css/default.asp>. Scroll through the Video and Audio - Session section to find the appropriate committee.
  13. Email: Soil Health Workshop, March 1, Bismarck State College, Bismarck Career Academy Multi-Purpose Room, Bismarck, ND.  
Contact [luncinda.makedonski@nd.nacdnet.net](mailto:luncinda.makedonski@nd.nacdnet.net)
  14. Email: 2017 Signup for the Irrigation Water Management Program is now open. Contact Ann McCauley, Soil & Water Conservation Districts of Montana, [ann@macdnet.org](mailto:ann@macdnet.org)
  15. Cascade CD January 2017 newsletter *Conservation Chronicle*
  16. Email: Whitefish Planning Board meeting February 16, 2017, 6:00 p.m. Whitefish City Council Chambers, 1005 Baker Avenue, Whitefish.
  17. Email: Seasonal Jobs Open for Mussel Response Inspection and Decontamination Stations: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks is recruiting additional aquatic invasive species inspection and laboratory technicians for the upcoming season - April through October. [musselresponse.mt.gov](http://musselresponse.mt.gov)
  18. Email: As part of the statewide effort to address the risks of invasive mussels, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks plans to create a new bureau to manage the prevention, detection and control of aquatic invasive species within state borders. The Aquatic Invasive Species Bureau will be housed in FWP's Fisheries Division, with plans to be operational beginning in March. The agency began a nationwide recruitment for a bureau supervisor this week. Information on the AIS bureau chief position is available online at: Bureau Chief -



<https://mtstatejobs.taleo.net/careersection/200/jobdetail.ftl?job=17140292>.

Applications are due Feb. 28.

19. Email: National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
20. Email: Through a recent agreement with the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD), the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has opened its Conservation Planning Boot Camp (CPBC) to conservation district employee participation (2-4 district employees per state). This three-week (March 28 –April 13) long program held in Lincoln, Nebraska, allows district employees to train alongside NRCS field staff in conservation program delivery, planning, and implementation; and equips them with the skills they need to help landowners and operators achieve their conservation objectives. Contact NACD CPBC Coordinator Phylis Vandevere at 601-491-8251 by February 10<sup>th</sup>, or go to NACD's CPBC webpage.
- 21: Email: February 10 issue of *News From The Front*. Legislative updates from Jeff Tiberi, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) [macdnet.org](http://macdnet.org)

### **FINANCIAL**

The following bills were reviewed:

1. Byte Savvy \$105.00
2. Flathead Beacon \$582.00
3. MACD \$14,000.00
4. MontanaSky Networks \$20.00
5. Susan D. Hulslander, CPA \$286.00
6. Mountain States Leasing – Kalispell \$1545.56
7. VISA \$608.03

Mark Siderius made a motion “to approve the bills as presented.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** No one was present to comment on items not on the agenda.

### **310**

**GREGOROFF**, FL2016028, Swan River, permit extension request: Discussion held. Pete Woll made a motion “to approve a one-year extension.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**HEINE**, FL2017004, unnamed stream, pond: Discussion held. Dean Sirucek made a motion “this is not a project under our jurisdiction because it is not associated with a perennial stream.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.



**J&J RANCH LLC/RIGHETTI**, FL2017003C, Haskill Creek, complaint: Discussion held. John Ellis made a motion “to send the standard complaint letter.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**KELLEY**, FL2016043/FL2017002 Ashley Crk tributary, complaint & application/tabled until spring: Discussion held. Dean Sirucek made a motion “to table for another month.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**SWANK**, FL2017001, Swan River, bank stabilization: Discussion held. Pete Woll made a motion “to approve the application as submitted.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously. *Mark Siderius abstained from voting.*

Pete Woll made a motion “to waive the 15-day waiting period with concurrence by FWP.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**VARDELL**, FL2015042 & FL2016010C, Whitefish River, County Attorney response: Discussion held. John Ellis made a motion “in response to Mr. Gerrish’s letter of 12/2016 to take no action.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**LAKE BOOK SUPPORT:** Cynthia Ingelfinger reported she has been invited to be on the committee for the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Montana Lake Book; each agency member was asked to request \$500 for design, layout and printing. Ronald Buentemeier asked for further information on the proposed changes.

Discussion held. Mark Sideirus made a motion “to support the Montana Lake Book (MLB) in the amount of \$500 and approve Cynthia Ingelfinger being on the committee for the MLB.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously. *Lori Curtis abstained from voting.*

**EQUIPMENT DISPOSAL:** Discussion held. Mark Siderius made a motion “to approve the Disposal Request and give the two laptops computers to the Flathead Valley Community College (FVCC) robot class.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.



**NORTH SHORE EROSION CONTROL PROJECT:** Paul Travis, Executive Director of the Flathead Land Trust (FLT) reported Mr. Sliter had passed away, and the family is no longer interested in the conservation part of the project. This means the project may not proceed as originally presented. He explained that the funds from the Flathead Conservation District went toward the final design for the restoration part of the project. FLT has the design. Discussion held regarding written agreements, contracts and FLT discussing other options with the Sliter family.

Mark Siderius stated that had it not been for the conservation and public access portions, the Flathead Conservation District (FCD) would not have agreed to support the project.

Discussion held. Mark Siderius made a motion "the FCD requests that the Sliter family either proceed with the conservation and public access project, or that they reimburse FCD for the \$15,000.00 restoration plan which the FCD funded in good faith." Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously. *Pete Woll abstained from voting.*

Mark Siderius made a motion "the FCD staff draft a letter to the Flathead Land Trust and the Sliter family to state our motion." Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **MATTERS OF THE BOARD/STAFF**

- Bear Creek Declaratory Ruling - Valerie Kurth explained the timeline to the board. Public hearing - March 6
- Floodplain meeting and draft legislation
- Sandbagging and Emergency process
- Samantha Tappenbeck, SWCDM, thanked the board for accommodating office space for her, stated that she is available as a resource to the district and invited supervisors to stop in to visit.

The next business-meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 27, 2017, 7:00 P.M. in the conference room of the USDA building at 133 Interstate Lane, Kalispell.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Verdell Jackson made a motion "to adjourn." Lori Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously. As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Submitted By: Ginger Kauffman, Administrator

***Minutes approved by FCD Board motion made on:***

<u>2/27/2017</u>	<u>Ronald Buentemeier</u>	<u>Chairman</u>
(Date)	(Signature)	(Title - Chairman, Vice-Chairman, etc.)

